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North Andover
Feb. 8th. 78

My dear Mr Jamison,

Though you kindly seek to relieve me of the supposed trouble of acknowledging receipt of your excellent letter to Mr. W.E. Chandler, - I am moved to thank you for remembering me, & to say that I shall always be glad to read (as from your own hand) whatever you may write on these momentous issues, so worthy reading admonitions and exhortations like yours.

It cannot require much longer time to open the eyes of all rational persons to the sophistry of this Guiteau-Kirk Cage, of which Bro. Hayes is the (work, we will only say) weak instrument. I am in hopes to see the Stanley Matthews & Bob Ingersoll clique exposed, & punished by the only thing that can keep them in order, the indignation of the people at their Schemes.

Even the "Boston Journal" has in its Wash. dispatch of Feb. 2d a virtual confession, or rather an authoritative admission of the Bargain with Southern Democrats; though under the specious name of a "Guarantee of personal honor",

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by Foster & Matthews — with the equally frank admission of a letter from Hayes that the case rose as a "political act"; "making 20 provinces which Hayes has not made history of". As if any one denied that ugly fact!

I will remember the Foster & Matthews letters, & have seen in them, ever since Pres. Hayes wrecked his policy, the key to the whole situation. Yet a little time will set these matters right in the public mind, there seems now every reason to believe. Louisiana is repeating the S. Carolina lesson, in her treatment of the Returning Board.

I cannot end without congratulations on what I am sure you will appreciate, the

noble speech of Senator Blaine on the Silver Bill. Thank God we have one statesman left, who can see round a great question, & riddle a great delusion, & make masterly exposition of a great duty. Blaine should have been President; and it is now a great satisfaction to me to find my old preference for his nomination confirmed. But I see that he has little hope that his substitute will have any following. Perhaps the returning millions of National bonds will do more towards saving us.

Is not the indignation of the English people at the falsely styled liberation of Gladstone & Freeman & Russian party speaking? But it comes late.

Most truly yrs
Samuel Tilden